

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1                   1.       The method of making graphics for heat sealing application  
2 to fabrics and hard surfaces comprising:  
3                   flooding the release surface of a release sheet with a heat  
4                   transfer ink in a liquid stage;  
5                   while the exposed surface of the ink is still in the liquid stage  
6                   applying thereto a thermoplastic adhesive;  
7                   causing the ink with the adhesive thereon to assume a solid  
8                   stage; and  
9                   thereafter kiss-cutting through the adhesive and ink to said  
10                  release surface of the release sheet to form the graphic.
  
- 1                   2.       The method of claim 1 wherein the ink is a screenprinting ink.
  
- 1                   3.       The method of claim 1 wherein the ink is applied as discrete  
2 congruent patches.
  
- 1                   4.       The method of claim 1 wherein the flooding of the release  
2 surface by ink is by screenprinting the ink thereon.
  
- 1                   5.       The method of claim 1 wherein the ink is a water or solvent  
2 based heat transferrable plastisol.
  
- 1                   6.       The method of claim 1 wherein the kiss cutting is by laser  
2 cutting wherein the power supplied to the cutter is sufficient to singe the ink along  
3 the cut line only adjacent the adhesive to render the line readily visible for weeding.
  
- 1                   7.       The method of claim 1 wherein the release sheet is made of  
2 paper with a release coating on one surface thereof.
  
- 1                   8.       The method of claim 1 wherein the release sheet is paper with  
2 a release coating on one side thereof.

1                   9.     The method of claim 8 wherein the kiss-cutting is performed  
2 by laser cutting with the power to the laser adjusted to singe the cut.

1                   10.    The method of claim 8 wherein the kiss-cutting is performed  
2 successively on the patches on each release sheet.

1                   11.    The method of claim 8 wherein the flooding of the release  
2 sheet with ink is by screenprinting successive areas of the sheet to provide discrete  
3 patches of ink.

1                   12.    The method of claim 8 wherein the flooding of the release  
2 sheet with ink is by simultaneously screenprinting all of the discrete ink patches on  
3 the release sheet.

1                   13.    The method of making a readily weedable heat applied  
2 graphic comprising:  
3                   providing a release sheet coated on one surface with an ink  
4 layer; and  
5                   kiss-cutting through the ink layer to the coated surface of the  
6 release sheet with a laser cutter and adjusting the power to singe the  
7 cut edges of the ink whereby they are readily visible for weeding.

1                   14.    The method of making perfectly aligned and pre-spaced heat  
2 transfer indicia on release sheets for application to fabrics or hard surfaces  
3 comprising:  
4                   flooding the release surface of a release sheet with a plurality  
5 of discrete congruent patches of heat transfer ink in the liquid  
6 stage, such patches being so arranged on the sheet and separated  
7 from each other that the sheet may be subsequently cut apart into  
8 congruent sub-sheets with the patches congruently arranged  
9 thereon:

10 while in the liquid stage applying to the exposed surface of  
 11 the ink a thermoplastic adhesive;  
 12 solidifying the ink;  
 13 kiss-cutting through the ink to the release sheet in each patch  
 14 to provide indicia arranged in the patches;  
 15 cutting through the release sheet to provide a plurality of  
 16 congruent sub-sheets having heat transfer indicia thereon; and  
 17 weeding unwanted material from each patch.

1 15. The method of claim 8 wherein the cutting through the release  
 2 sheet is so arranged with respect to the patches that the distances between the  
 3 margins of the sub-sheets and the patches is equal.

1 16. The method of claim 8 wherein the indicia kiss-cut in each  
 2 patch comprises a plurality of letters and/or numbers spaced in predetermined  
 3 relation to each other.

1 17. The method of decorating fabrics or hard surfaces with a  
 2 plurality of indicia accurately spaced apart and accurately positioned thereon  
 3 comprising:

4 screenprinting the release surface of a paper release sheet  
 5 with a plurality of discrete congruent patches of heat transfer ink, the  
 6 patches being so arranged on the sheet and separated from each other  
 7 that the sheet may be subsequently cut apart into congruent sub-  
 8 sheets with the patches congruently arranged thereon;

9 while in the liquid stage applying to the exposed surfaces of  
 10 the ink patches a thermoplastic adhesive;  
 11 solidifying the ink;

12 kiss-cutting with a laser through the ink to the release sheet  
 13 in each patch to provide identical indicia congruently arranged in the  
 14 patches;

15 cutting through the release sheet to provide a plurality of  
 16 congruent sub-sheets having heat transfer indicia thereon;

17                   weeding unwanted ink from each of the sub-sheets; and  
18                   positioning each sub-sheet on the fabric or hard surface with  
19                   the adhesive there against and heat sealing the indicia thereto.

1                   18.     Graphics for heat seal application to fabrics or hard surfaces  
2     comprising:  
3                   a paper release sheet having a release coating on one surface thereof;  
4                   an ink layer on the release coated side of the release sheet  
5                   spaced uniformly from the marginal edges of the sheet;  
6                   a heat responsive adhesive coating on the exposed surface of  
7                   the ink layer for adhering the layer to a fabric or hard surface; and  
8                   indicia kiss-cut in the adhesive and ink layer down to the  
9                   release coating with the cut outlined by a singeing of the exposed  
10                   surface of the ink layer.

1                   19.     The graphics of claim 18 wherein the ink layer comprises a  
2     plurality of identical discrete ink patches on the release sheet uniformly spaced from  
3     the marginal edges of the release sheet and the indicia is uniformly positioned on  
4     the patches in determined spaced relation from the edges of the patches.